Ms. Janet Reno, The Attorney General
The Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Harold Weisberg
7627 Old Receiver Rd.
Frederick, MD 21702

Dear Ms. Reno, 5/10/00

I ~~vae~~ have unique qualifications for writing you about your ~~renewst~~ newest fabrication about the King assassination, about which I now know only what I read in this morning's Washington Post: I worked for both Ray and the Department and was gypped out of my promised department consultancy fee. I was Ray's investigator for several years. I arranged for him to have pro bono counsel without the extremist right-wing views of those who did him in, I conducted the successsful habeas corpus investigation and the investigation, including the locating and preparing of witness for the two weeks of evidentiary hearing in federal district court in Memphis in the unsuccessful effort to make the system of justice work.

The department had prevented that by lying to the King family, telling it that the case against Ray was solid and that he's be sentenced to death without "clemency" for a guilty plea - when there was no chance of electrocution if he had been guilty and when the Department could not even place Ray in Memphis at the time of the crime and when the Department and the FBI had more than reason to believe that Ray had not killed anyone. Actually, no real case against Ray at all!!

While the FBI, as usual, was less than honest in its required disclosures under FOIA, I filed two FOIA lawsuits for King assassination records. In the first I obtained copies of what the Department made public in England to ~~procure~~ procure Ray's illegal extradiction (it was illegal under the then extradition treaty) but which after it was made public, in the courts, in England, it was still all classified "SECRET" in the United States! The actuality is that those misrepresented records actually confess that the department had no case against Ray at all!

(Please excuse my typing. I'M 87 and have been ill and feeble for years.)

In CA 75-1996 in federal district court in Washington I sued the department for all its records relating to King and associates and the crime and its investigation. While unjustified withholds, as testified to by the department's chief of FOIA appeals were never corrected and other omissions were rather obvious, I did obtain about eight file cabinets of withheld FBI records.

In that lawsuit, incredible as it seems, the department did persuade the court to appoint me to act as its consultant in my lawsuit against it! It assured Judge June Green that it would pay me at the then consultancy rate and in the end it claimed it had no authority to pay me a cent and I was also stuck for my expenses.

This is not the only time your department bestowed unusual credentials on me - and please understand I'm not boasting but giving you what you should

be able to recognize as credentials - it told the court in CA 75226- that I knew more about the JFK assassination than anyone working for the FBI. That was the FBI's "defense" when, disgusted with the unending FBI perjury with which it frustrated and violated the law, I put myself under oath to swear that it was perjurious. Or, if I were not factually correct, the department could, and I am confident would have charged me with perjury.

The record establishes that it makes no difference which party is in power in any branch of government, no government is capable of truth with regard to the political assassinations. Congress even cited one of my earlier FOIA lawsuits against the FBI as requiring the 1974 FOIA amending of the investigatory files exemption. And in the executive branch, all governments resort to ~~the~~ ~~shame~~ shameless dodges. First they pretend to investigate what they do not investigate, the they go hawgwild with what is not really relevant, your current job is heavy of this , then they ignore all the known evidence and sources. As an example of this, quoting the Post,"the investigators said they interviewed more than 200 witnesses...all available from four previous investigations as well as pleadings, discovery materials and other papers."

I doubt if anyone has more of this information than I, more personally-developed more relavant information than I, and I was not spoken to. That is not because the CRD, which did this job for you, does not know about me. Or the civil division, the deputy AG's office or the FBI does not. All do.

Based on the relatively brief account of this report of yours I could, if I could not find the time and energy, do a book on the added disgrace to the nation from this knowing official dishonesty about one of the greatest of our national tragedies, when the utmost in sincerity and ~~inge~~ integrity are required of the government. But the governments, all of them, have failed and not one failed with innocence. To the degree possible for me, once this was apparent, I have undertaken to make a record in the form of book manuscripts and I have placed copies in the hands of friends who share this interest in making a record for history. None is of conjectures. There are at least 30 book-length manuscripts, two of about 200,000 words each, and one it titled Whoring With History: How the Posners Protect the King Assassins.

Your report refers to four previous official investigations. There were more than four and this Posner expose consists, to a large degree, of what was unrefuted in the evidentiary hearing your experts and officials entirely ignored. They had to.

Had to or they could not reach the preordained conclusion.

They knew about this record, probably had copies of those transcripts, and this alone makes your report of even more significant dishonesty. I do not say that you personally were aware but I do mean and I do say that the Department

knew and was deliberately dishonest in order to serve the political end it felt it needed and the department is your responsibility.

There are, as this may surprise you, so many dishonesties of such importance refering to any one as the most important is not justified. But it is possible, and with certainty because of the souces in the official fact, to igenitfy some as of great importance, and I do that with your dishonest pretences in this report and of them that you were really reinvestigating the crime itself, not all the rubbish and other fabrications of those who ~~large~~ lack real knowledge of the crime and have ~~goin ton~~ gone into what can excite people, make them money or give them a phony ~~repotaion~~ reputation they can palm off, and do, as real.

The the items of the investigation required and not mentioned because they were ignored is the most basic of all: ~~what~~ was there a conspiracy. This also wiithout all the nonsense and imaginings by so many who know ~~nothe~~ nothing of the fact of the crime and imagine themselves Perry Masons.

There is no queations about it- and here I remind you that what I say is based on official evidence the department also has, ~~one~~ originated most of it.

You have omitted from this report what the FBI has and knows, and that was essential to the fraud of the whole thing, your phony investigation which was not the investigation required, not of the crime itself.

And in this you cutomaticaly ~~imelited~~ omitted the FBI's acknowledgement, ~~phon~~ phrased other than this, that the socalled Ray rifle was not even used to kill King. It knew this, it lied about it to get Ray extradicted while in that lie admitting it, it did not refute or even deny this when it was testified to by an outstanding forsnc~~ic~~-sicence expert, produced in federal court.

I could go on and on with so much more of this, all the alleged offiffal evidence and all the opposite of the official representation of it, but if you get and and listen to it, you need no more to decide whether you want this and so much more like it is your decision, My unhidden purpose is to make and ~~leeav~~ leave a record for history, what I have been doing pro bono for about thirty-five years. If you want to get and be able to appraise what I tell you I have and will give it to you through any one you trust, with citations of sources where I now cannotlay my hands on it. It is part of an archive of about some 60 file cabinest and many boxes. You can send any you trust and they can tape and copy what is not ~~being~~ get incorporated in a collegiate archive.

~~BBB~~ There is much more in the Lardner story I could have commented on but that is now a bit much for me and I think you do not need it. If you want to learn what I can give you, I am but an hour away and I am almost never away from home for other than medical reasons. My wife had four major operations in six

weeks when she was 85 and I fear she will never overcome the effects of the blood clots on her brain. In addition to my other medical prohems of which the FBI and the civil division have long been aware, I am in kidney dialysis three mornings a week and it exhausts me the rest of those days, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. But at almost any other time I am available and offer to be taped so there can be no questions about what I am asked and respond.

I call to your attention what no other writer or official has reminded the people, none of which I know, that the assassination of a President is the most subversive of possible crimes in a country like ours. It is a de facto coup d'etat, whatever the intent of the assassin or assassins. It has that effect. Aside from our power and influence it makes us a banana republic.

When our government then failed, as it did by intent and what in the street would be called conniving-- and I have the documents on this and have published them without contradiction from any of those involved and cited by name - I have the official documents and your department was my source - as the founding fathers made safe and possible for them, individual citizens then can bring to light what the government suppressed and lied about.

Being able to do this to the degree I have means much to me because I am the first member of my family ever to be born into freedom and I think it gave me the chance to pay back on what became mine by the accident of my birth here.

I seek nothing from this and I have no interest in harming anyone, although if anything were done with honest intent and diligence in inquiry that might be inevitable. My interest is in making the system work, and that distinguished all I have done in this field as compared with all others, especially those who seek to commercialize it or build phony reputations on the childish imaginings.

Whatever attention to this there may be in the future, if any, it will still be there as a record for history and at some time it is not unlikely that there will be some attention. There is nothing honest that can be done about the past but belated honesty will be good to the official reputations that have been smirched and belated honesty should be appreciated and well received.

You depend on advisers or sources and they in turn have to do that and in the end, in the past, it has been those who are guilty who mislead and misinform through the chain of command. There are now, particularly in the FBI and the Civil division, a rather large collection of records that refer to or pretends to quote me. All of the rather large number I have seen ranged from evasions, distortions, misrepresentations and lies and if it is desidered, in an effort to establish the point that in all our dealtings not a single significant effort or a false statement or a lie attributed to me and by confrontation I offer to prove this. My point

here is that if. belatedly as it would be, the government wants to learn what the truth is about which it has lied to itself, it is entitled to an estimate of its offered source.

I have beaten two phony security cases, with the agent who framed me for those he served charged with two felonies and with the other followed by a public apology.

The only memberships I remember are of government-employee unions and professional organizations, like the newspaper guild and the Society of Professional Journalists besides a cooperative or two.

I have no power, no means, no influence and no special ambition other than to make a truthful record for out history about an unprecedented and anti-American change first in government and then of others related to that. At 87 my life may be at its day-by-stage. There is much more I want to do to add to this rather large record I have made, with much less time for that, but I make this offer to you with no strings attached and no conditions but with one request: that you tape it and give me a copy of that tape.

Your people, if you accept my offer, will have the free and unsupervised access to out copier.

Which, has it has always been true, all those I do not agree with also have had.

Most of what has been written about our politial assassinations is junk by those who are, literally, subject-matter ignoramuses and/or those seeking to pretend to be Sherlock Holmses and who invent the impossible. But there is a small number of us who seek nothing personal who have been researchiing what is possible and are making a record. At least some will exist and then the danger to reputstions can be great and, frankly, I believe should be. We all have responsibilities in our Society and especially those in responsibility took oaths to meet them. If they do not can sometimes be understandable but if they can and do not correct their mistakes the judgement of them by history may be much harder,

I do not presume that you will accept my offer but on the chance you do my phone number is 301/473-8186. I retire and awaken early and I am away on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from about 5:30 a.m. until about 11:00 a.m. I am home the rest of those days but am usually quite washed out by the dialysis treatment.

My first book, Whitewash: The Report on the Warren Report, dates to mid- February, 1965. The second, Whitewash II: The FBI-Secret Service Coverup, was published December 2, 1966.

The third and fourth of this series appeared in 1967 and 1974, and the last, Post Mortem, in 1975.

Oswald in New Orleans was published in 1967, too.

Two of the volumes I wrote as a record for history, Case Open and NEVER AGAIN! and did not expect commercial publication, appeared in 1993 and 1994.

Frame-Up, on the King assassination, was published in 1971.

These books include many serious criticisms, by name, of members and employees of the Warren Commission and of government officials and employees of various ranks and importances, but in all the years since the first and in many ways the most critical appeared to today I have not gotten a single letter or phone call from any of those of whom I wrote so criticially in which he alleged that in what I wrote about him I had been unfair or inaccurate.

In several thousand critical pages.

The most conservative members of the Warren Commission, Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia, had a high opinion of my first four books and encouraged my work until his dying day. (That is a separate story I have documented if by any chance you are interested in it.)

This unusual record for accuracy, particularly on so controversial a subject, is confirmed by the massive records in my FOIA litigation in which, rather than resort to lawyers' pleadings in my controversies with the FBI, I said what I wanted said under oath and subject to the penalties of perjury but there was not even a hint of that and in all that litigation, I recall no documented contradiction of anything I said and some filings were of book length.

It may interest you to know in this regard that some of the government records filed in that case, CA 75-1776, disappeared from the court's set quite a few years ago, according to the L.A.Times reporter who went to the court to compare them with my copies.

What I exposed about the department, particularly about the FBI, is without refutation and for the most part no refutation exists. Or can exist.

This is my record for accuracy, if you care to check it, and as there is no conjecture in any of these books, there also is not pretense to have been Perry Mason, with any contrived pretended (and impossible) "solution." All comes from the official records in my possession. I published hundreds of them in facsimile.

If you or your staff have an question, feel free to ask them. 301/473-8186

I know of no way in which what I offer you can be duplicated after I am gone.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg

Harold Weisberg